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*Ambition sighed; she found it vain to trust  
The faithless column and the crumbling bust,  
Huge moles, whose shadow stretched from shore to shore,  
Their ruins perished, and their place no more!  
Convinced, she now contracts her vast design,  
And all her triumphs shrink into a coin.—Pope*

E. W. HOLWAY, EDITOR.

—:O:—

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THE DECORAH  
**Numismatic Journal.**

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DECORAH, IOWA, OCTOBER, 1875.

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E. W. HOLWAY, EDITOR.

COINS AND MEDALS OF MARTIN LUTHER AND THE  
REFORMATION.

( *Continued.* )

Most writers agree in giving the date of Luther's birth as November 10, but some have stated that it was October 22, in order to prove from his *horoscope* that he was radically a bad man. On the 11th. of Nov., his father took him to St. Peter's church, where he was baptised, and, in commemoration of the day, called Martin. The next year his parents removed to Mansfeld, where his father became a member of the city council.. From 1497 to 1504, he studied at Magdeburg, Eisenach and Erfurt. In conformity to his father's wishes, he intended to devote himself to the study of law, but being overtaken by a violent storm, and, as he says, "encompassed with the anguish and terror of death," he vowed to abandon the world, and entered an Augustine Cloister, at Erfurt, July 17, 1505. In 1510, he was sent to Rome, which he supposed to be a most holy city. While there, he wrote ; " I have also performed a mass or two, and was almost sorry that my father and mother yet lived, for how gladly would I have delivered them from purgatory



in Malachi, chap. 4. v. 5. In 1520, Luther was excommunicated and his books were burned at Rome. In 1521, he received the following order to appear before the diet at Worms :—

KARL VON GOTTES GNADEN, ERWELTER RHOMISCHERR KEYSZER, ZU  
ALLEN TZEITENN MHERERR DES REICHS.

Erszamer, liewer, andechtigerr. Nachdem wier vnd des Heyligen Reichs Stennde yetz hir verszamlet fuergenhomem vnd entschloszenn der Lerenn vnd Buecher halbm szo eyn tzeitherr von dir auszgangen sein, erkundigung von dir zu empfaen, habm Wir die herzekommenn vnd von dannen widderumb an dein sicher gewarssam vnser vnd des Reichs Frey gestrackh sicherheit vnd Gelaitt gegeben, das wir hirneben zusenden Mit beger du wollest dich fuerderlich erheben Also das du an den Ain vnd zwaintzigstenn tagen inn solchem vnnszerenn gelaitt bestimbe gewiszlichen hie bey vns seyest vnd nit ausbleibest, dich auch keyns gewalts oder vnrechtens besorgen Dann wir dich bey dem obgemelten vnserenn gelaitt vesticklich handthaben wollen. Vnns auch auff solch dein zukunfft entlich verlassen vnd du thust daran vnser ernstlich Maynunge. Geben in vnser vnd des Reichs Stadt Wormbs den Sechsten tag des Monats Marci Anno C. xvc. vnd im ain vnd zwaintzigsten vnsets Reichs im andern Jarenn.

CAROLUS.

(l. s.)

*Ad mandatum Dni*

*Imperatoris*

*ppm.*

*Albertus Card. Mogunt.*

*Archicancellarius ssst.*

*N. cl. as. Tiegel.*

Juncker obtained this copy from the original document then at Leipzig. The translation is :—

CHARLES, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, EMPEROR ELECT OF THE  
ROMANS, PERPETUAL AUGMENTER OF THE EMPIRE.

Honorable, well-beloved, and pious ! We and the states of the Holy Empire here assembled, having resolved to institute an inquiry about thy teachings and the books that thou hast lately published, have issued, for thy coming hither and thy return to a place of security, our safe conduct, and that of the empire, which we send thee herewith. We request that thou shouldst start immediately, in order that thou mayst certainly be here with us within the twenty-one days mentioned in our safe conduct. Fear neither injustice nor violence, for we will firmly abide by our aforesaid safe conduct. We expect that thou will obey our summons, and, in so doing, thou will obey our earnest wishes.

Given in our imperial city of Worms, the sixth day of March in the year of our Lord 1521, and the second of our reign.

CHARLES.

By order of my Lord the emperor, witness my hand, Albert,  
Cardinal of Mentz, High-chancellor.

Nicholas Ziegl.

It was addressed, " To the honorable, our well-beloved and pious Doctor Martin Luther, of the order of Augustines."

( *To be continued.* )

The origin of our species—the Philadelphia mint.



## THE MINUS AND PREIS COIN SALE IN VIENNA, NOVEMBER 1874.

This fine and large collection was the result of the long and unwearyed labors of two well known numismatists, Gotthard Minus of Riga, and Adolph Preis of St. Petersburg. The Russian department was, perhaps, more complete than any collection ever sold at public auction. The portrait medals of the XVI. century were master-pieces of art, and such a selection is very unlikely to be offered again. The catalogue, a volume of 400 pages, contains 5379 lots. The following prices were realized for the rarities.

No. 34. Charles V. Medallion 1521. IMP · CAES · CRAOLVS ·  
V · AVG · Head to right. Rev. MARIA · HVN · BOH · REG ·  
MDXXI. Head to left. \$ 75.00

No. 202—205. Russia. Sophia, Grand-Duchess, with John and  
Peter Alexiewitsch, 1682—1689. 1 and 1-2, 1, 1-2, and 1-4  
ducats, without date, \$ 295.00

No. 1045. England. Charles I. XX shillings, 1642, \$ 42.60

No. 1046. X shilling, 1642, \$ 18.00

No. 1064. Oliver Cromwell, 20 shillings in gold, 1656, \$ 54.00

No. 1159. France. Charles IX. Thick dollar of 1573. Head  
to left crowned with laurel. Rev. SIT · NOMEN · DOMINI ·  
BENEDICTVM · A · Coat of arms between two crowned C's. On  
the edge ; VERÆ RELIGIONIS ASSERTORI† \$ 54.00

No. 1162. - Henry III. Thick dollar of 1577, \$ 31.00

No. 1172. Henry IV. Thick dollar of 1607, \$ 43.00

- No. 1338. Poland. Sigismund August, Thaler, 1564, of XXX Groschen, struck during the war against Russia, \$ 63.00
- No. 1350. - Stephen Bathory, medal on the capture of Liefland and Policz, \$ 45.00
- No. 1360. - Sigismund III. Thaler-Klippe, 1614, \$ 75.00
- No. 1363. -- -- -- Thaler, 1625, \$ 99.00
- No. 1487. John III. Sobieski, 1674-1696. Thaler of the Kingdom without date. Maidai 372. \$ 186.00
- No. 1696. Sweden. Sten Sture, Thick Thaler, 1512, \$ 414.00
- No. 2605. Nicolaus Schiener, Bishop of Sitten, Thaler of the year 1498, \$ 90.00
- No. 2606. Mathias Schiener, Bishop of Sitten. One and one half Thaler piece, described as a double dollar in *Journal*, page 24, \$ 156.00
- No. 2739. Brandenburg. Joachim I., 1498--1535. Thaler of 1521. Bust in Electoral dress, with scepter in the right hand :  
IOACHIM : MARCHIO : BRAN : PRIM : ELECTOR Rev. MONE : NO :  
ARGEN : P : ELECTORI : BRANDB \* Date above a coat of arms.  
Never before sold at auction. \$ 162.00
- No. 2745. -- John George, Thaler of 1587. \$ 60.00
- No. 3213. Transylvania. Stephen Bethlen, Ducat of the year 1630, \$ 90.00
- No. 3214. -- Geo. Rakoczy I. Ten Ducat piece, 1631, \$ 60.00
- No. 3515. Wallenstein. Albert, ten Ducat piece. 1629, \$ 150.00
- No. 4857. Riga. Gustavus Adolphus, Thaler of 1628, \$ 300.00



## NEW WASHINGTON MEDAL.

Bust to right, from Houdon. 1775 - 100 YEARS - 1875.

I. F. W. DES. C. H. L. FEC. In an outer circle : \* FIRST IN WAR AND IN PEACE \* LAST IN SECURING Rev. View of monument as it stands today. Above ; ( PRESIDENCY OF U. S. GRANT ) At the sides ; WASHINGTON D. C. Below ; WOOD'S SERIES "C" NO. 3.

Inscription in outer circle, a continuation of the one on the obverse ; \* A MONUMENT. \* CORNER STONE LAID 1848—COMPLETED 1876 (?) Silver, bronze and white metal, size 24.

The following is a copy of the circular issued by Mr. Wood, which fully explains the occasion of its issue

## CENTENNIO-SATIRICAL WASHINGTON MEDAL.

New York, July 3d, 1875.

I offer to collectors the above. It is No. 3 of Series "C." of my issues. It is a memorial of a great and prosperous nation's boundless and overflowing gratitude to its Father, Founder, and Most Illustrious Citizen.

One hundred years ago to-day, Washington took command of the Revolutionary army. At the close of eight years weary marches, hard fought battles, and endless discouragements, in which, often, he alone upheld the faltering form and hopes of Liberty, he stood acknowledged "First in War." Again, for eight years, he, with disinterested devotion, served his country in arduous civil affairs.

He returned to private life preeminently "First in Peace." A half-century after his death, the nation he had created conceived the beautiful, but erroneous, idea that he was "First in the Hearts of his Countrymen." To demonstrate which they began to erect, at the National Capitol, a monument, which, in majestic height and general design, should be emblematic of his superlative character. With a great flourish they blazoned this to the world. States, Corporations, even Foreign Nations sent—"building blocks!" The people raised *some* money. Alas! Washington was 'nt in the supposed location, viz: those "Hearts." Nearly thirty years are passed away, and, in this Centennial year of our Nationality, *less than half* of the six hundred feet of the shaft alone stands completed. The Pantheon base exists only on paper.

It is lofty satisfaction to American pride! It is a noble object for foreign criticism!

Any surplus over and above the actual cost of the medal that may *possibly* accrue from its sale, (an experience I have never yet realized), will be cheerfully devoted to the Monument fund. Mayhap there will be enough to buy *one brick*.

I. F. W.

++0++

They may be had of Edward Cogan, 408 State St., Brooklyn, N. Y. Issue in Silver *strictly limited to 30*, price \$5. Bronze, \$1. White metal, 50 cts.

++0++

The best thing out—out of debt.



ON THE HISTORIC MATERIAL OF CERTAIN  
COINS AND MEDALS.

In the New York Journal of Numismatics for April, 1868, an article, enumerating many interesting coins, was given under this heading. There are numerous examples in the Franco-Prussian medals of 1870-71. We have obtained the following

PRUSSIAN ARMY MEDAL.

Obverse ; *Dem siegreichen Heere* ; above is the letter W, crowned. In an outer circle ; *Gott war mit uns Ihm sei dei Ehre* \* Reverse, within a wreath and ornamental work ; 1870 1871 On the edge ; AUS EROBERTEM GESCHUETZ ( *Out of captured artillery.* ) With ring. Size 18.

Similar medals were issued by Frederick William III., for services in 1813 and 1814.

++0++

The *Coin Circular*, published by Geo. A. Dillingham, Titusville, Penn., is very neat four-page monthly. Subscription, 35 cts. per annum.

∞0∞

We have seen nothing of the *Coin and Stamp Journal* lately. Has it met with an early death, the sad fate of most Numismatic publications ?

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An object of interest—a five-twenty bond.

THE DECORAH NUMISMATIC JOURNAL.

COIN SALES.

The large collection of Colonel M. I. Cohen of Baltimore is now being catalogued by Edward Cogan, and will be sold by auction sometime during the month of October. It contains by far the largest assortment of American, English, and Foreign Gold that ever *has* been, or probably ever will be offered in this country.

We are indebted to H. Hoffman, Paris, for a catalogue of the *Collection Regnault*, to be sold in that city October 19, 20, and 21, 1875.

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This *Journal* will *not* be published another year.

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